

# FASHIONS FOR MID-SUMMER

LATEST FASHIONS  
FROM THE  
FASHION CENTERS

By May Manton

NOTHING is more fashionable for summer costumes than white taffeta and nothing daintier or more charming. The one is trimmed with Roman stripes that, while beautiful and rich in color, are not over-bright for warm weather wear. Both the coat and the skirt are new and smart and altogether the costume is a most successful one while it is easy to think of it copied in a darker color or in a heavier material if it is wanted for hard usage. Taffeta is unquestionably a favorite and will continue its vogue for some time but this suit could be made of summer gabardine or of any similar suiting while taffeta could be chosen in a dark color in place of the white. Brown tan and dove color are especially well liked and any one could be trimmed with stripes in some harmonizing shades. The short coat is exceedingly jaunty and exceedingly simple because the raglan sleeves mean that there is no fitting to be done and the skirt is only one big piece draped to produce the bustle effect and to give breadth over the hips. Since combinations of materials or colors are as fashionable as entire costumes, the skirt could be made of stripes with the coat of plain or the skirt of plain with the coat of stripes. For the early autumn, velvet jackets will be much worn over silk skirts or silk gowns and that combination would be most attractive and black velvet with white is always handsome.

SILKS not alone are extremely fashionable at the present moment, they also will continue their vogue throughout the coming season and they offer exquisite colors and designs. Here are two costumes, one made of an exquisite moiré taffeta with trimming of liberty satin, the other of figured silk combined with plain.

The moiré gown shows especially interesting features in the waistcoat blouse and in the flaring circular ruffle that simulates a tunic. The skirt over which this ruffle is arranged is a circular two-piece one. The blouse is full at the shoulders and finished with an oddly shaped collar. Its sleeves can be made longer or shorter as liked.

The second costume shows raglan sleeves, prettily shaped revers and an entirely new skirt with a three-piece under portion and an over skirt that is cut all in one piece drawn up and draped at the back to give a fashionable material as could be found but every fashionable costume can be reproduced in different fabrics and often a different combination will give an entirely different effect.

LONG circular tunics that ripple at the lower edge make one of the newest and most interesting features of fashion. As it is shown here, the tunic and blouse are of one material while the skirt is of another and such effects are much liked and, as a matter of course, they can be varied again and again.

For the present season, linen, cotton poplin, light weight gabardine and taffeta are perhaps the preferred materials but we are approaching the autumn and such gowns as this one will be available for between season's wear made either of a combination of gabardine with taffeta or of gabardine, duvetyn, broad-cloth or serge throughout. The blouse is quite a plain one but with a novel collar that is plaited at the back. The skirt is made in two pieces and the tunic in one.



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Today on the Avenue, more black and white effects were exploited than any other and one of our most important dealers is showing one window entirely of black and white striped charmeuse satin combined with plain black and another of such dark blue and white taffeta that it gives much the same effect, so nearly black is the color. We all know that when any fashion is overdone, it sounds its own doom and the vivid colors have been a bit exaggerated but it is, nevertheless, remarkable that the black and white craze which Paris started at the very recent races should already make itself apparent on this side of the sea.

Black taffeta combined with white crêpe de chine makes some exceedingly fashionable costumes and there is every evidence of the black and white idea. Happily the rather glaring effects that come from the very wide stripes and the over-dashing effects that have thus far not appeared, the tendency being toward the quieter effects which are far more in harmony with the warm weather. A really beautiful gown seen to-day is, for example, made with a simple straight skirt of white that is faced up with black taffeta for approximately ten or twelve inches. Over the skirt hangs a straight plaited tunic of white crêpe de chine, the lower edge of which extends about two inches over the black foundation and the bodice consists of the soft white silk with a waistcoat over-blouse of the black taffeta that is exceedingly smart.

Among the new basque costumes to be seen is found almost every variation of length below the hip line. One of the prettiest garments of the simpler sort yet seen extends only a few inches below the belt line and is prettily full over the figure while the fronts are extended to form girdle ends that finish the sides and back and are held by a buckle. The gown is made of white crêpe de chine and the tunic is a flat plaited one over a plain skirt but the basque is closed down the front with small cut jet buttons.

So far the basque gives no evidence of becoming a smooth, tight-fitting garment. While it is impossible to tell what may develop by autumn, present indications point to a continuance of the natural figure which is in every way charming. The basques thus far exploited are mostly full, or rucked, at the side seams and do not closely define the waist whether they extend a few inches below the waist or to the hips. The long, close sleeves are something of an innovation and a change but they are very pretty and altogether the outlook is a most encouraging and interesting one.

As a matter of course, skirts will become elaborate instantly bodices become plain. It seems to be an inevitable law of dress and flounced skirts, tucked skirts and tunic skirts are all exploited in combination with basques.

## SIMPLE DESIGNS for YOUNG FOLKS

By MAY MANTON

LATE summer is very apt to bring a demand for the renewal of the children's wardrobe. Wise mothers like to choose garments that can be made available throughout the coming season. Here is one of the prettiest possible little frocks that can be made available for almost any season and with it a smart coat that can be put together in almost no time. The frock as shown here, is made from bordered challis with ruffles of ribbon but the same effect can be produced by any bordered material or plain material can be used if treated as suggested in the small view, or in any similar manner. Checked wool material with trimming of charmeuse satin makes the little coat and very pretty it is. Since the sleeves and body portion are cut in one in Japanese style there are only two seams to be sewed up and the circular ruffle is joined to the lower edge. In the back view, serge is trimmed with taffeta and there too is an excellent suggestion.



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It is probable that a great many bodices showing a modification of the basque idea will be worn and already there is a tendency to finish the bodice with an extension below the waist line over the skirt. A pretty little costume designed for simple occasions is made of fine French crêpe in one of the beautiful shades of yellow that is exceedingly popular. It consists of three plaited flounces mounted over a narrow skirt and a long plaited tunic with a simple plain bodice that terminates with a peplum or frill below the waist line and which is worn with a girdle and bow of black velvet ribbon.

VELVET, indeed, both as ribbon and as material by the yard is used in many ways in combination with summer stuffs. A most fascinating long, full cape of short taffeta that produces a shimmering effect of rose color is finished with a collar and ties of black velvet ribbon. A great many shades of the black velvet are seen and, not infrequently, one sees little touches of black velvet used for the over-waists that are to make a feature, although these last can hardly be comfortable if we have the usual July and August weather.

THERE is no question as to the comfort of this costume and what is essentially comfortable always appeals to the small boy. Since the suit is smart also, mothers will like it and the fact that it is all cut in one piece requiring only the adjustment of a few buttons and button-holes to be slipped on and off will undoubtedly make it welcome. There are no separate collars and no dummies to be matched. The entire suit is washed and ironed together and, when it returns from the laundry, it is complete and ready to wear. In the picture, striped galatea is combined with plain but there is a light weight sponge linen and light weight sponge are handsome made in this way while one material can be used if the combination is not liked.

JUST such sturdy, practical frocks as this one are needed for the happy hours of play and also for the school days that are not so far distant. The separate skirt is buttoned to the waist so that the garments are easy to launder and the combination of two materials is exceedingly smart.

LITTLE girls wear such frocks as this one made from fine lawn batiste and the like, and also from voile that is a little more dressy in effect. Also they wear colored dresses as much as they do white and, consequently, this one simple little model can be treated in a number of ways. On the figure, it is made of white nainsook trimmed with embroidery. In the back view, the same model is made of the same material lace trimmed but, as the lower edge is straight, flouncing can be used for the dress with lace or embroidery for the yoke, and every mother knows that flouncing, providing its own finish means little labor for the making. Voile would be pretty either with a hem-stitched finish or with insertion.



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FASHIONS for the little folk are exceptionally attractive just now and boys' costumes are relieved of severity while girls' dresses are daintily charming. These two are typical, the girls dress being made of rose colored linen embroidered with white while the boy's costume is made of blue linen serge with collar and shield of white.

The girl's frock is made with only under-arm seams and is closed invisibly at the back for the entire length. There are slashes through which the belt or sash can be passed and the neck can be finished either with or without the applied yoke.



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It seems almost absurd to think about fabric hats when we have had no real summer weather here in old Gotham at least, but nevertheless hats of taffeta, and even hats with velvet crowns are offered and experience teaches that whatever is offered for sale will be worn whether it is appropriate or inappropriate, whether the season calls for it or does not. Little by little we have pushed the seasons ahead until now we wear straw hats while snow and ice remain and apparently we are expected to wear hats of satin and hats of velvet during summer heat. Paris, of course, is responsible to a certain extent but Paris does not see such heat as we know on this side of the sea and we are far too prone to reach out for the latest novelty without considering its use and appropriateness. Cabled reports tell us that the latest races have seen some fabric hats and some few of velvet. Hats of soft silk and soft satin are really charming in effect and quite sufficiently summerlike but the thought of velvet crowns even with the thinnest of straw for the brim is rather trying in combination with such temperature as midsummer is apt to mean.